



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region Four Headquarters
4600 Giant Springs Road
Great Falls, MT 59405
December 26, 2008

SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Sterling Ranch Fishing Access Sites

Attached is the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) regarding Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposed designation and development of new Fishing Access Sites along the Upper Missouri River on the Sterling Ranch, between Wolf Creek and Craig, Montana.

The Sterling Ranch has historically allowed public access for anglers through their property. FWP proposes to develop two of the more heavily impacted access points on the Missouri river into Fishing Access Sites (FAS). These two sites are commonly referred to as Lone Tree and the Bull Pasture. Development at the proposed Lone Tree FAS would include installing a vault latrine, a regulation sign, improving the trail or adding stairs down to the river, and improving the parking area. Development at the proposed Bull Pasture FAS would include improving the gravel entrance road, reclaiming existing roads and approaches at the site, constructing a parking area, installing a vault latrine, a regulation sign, and construction of a new fence with a gate and pedestrian pass-through.

The EA analyzes the impacts to the human and natural environment from the proposed action and alternatives. We invite you to review the attached EA and provide us with your comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Please mail comments to: Sterling Ranch Fishing Access Sites EA, FWP, Region 4 Headquarters, 4600 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405. Comments may also be E-mailed to: mmarcinek@mt.gov.

If you need additional information please contact the undersigned at 406-454-5846, or Mr. Matt Marcinek, Acting Region 4 Parks Manager, at 406-454-5858.

_____/s/
Graham Taylor
Acting Region Four Supervisor

Attachment: Draft Environmental Assessment